

# Shatterdawn

## **Tales of the Black Bard**

*These are the words and thoughts of Odi Silvertongue, a half-elven wandering, warrior poet who in his many years has traipsed across the known world of Shatterdawn in his own roguish bohemian style gathering, tales, songs and scars along the way. They should in no way be taken as "true fact" as the Black Bard has a tendency to "color" himself in a better light than his less than savory reputation affords him in many of the known kingdoms of this vast realm. As Odi is found of saying "Take from a tale what truths you will and leave the rest a little better than you found it."*

**Sixteen Crows and a cup of Relkien Mead, I've killed men for less.  
-Found carved on privy wall in the House of the Hanged Man (a tavern in northern Relk)-**

**Of the coinage of the Great Northern Isle:** Here in the north how one refers to his coins can tell you quite a bit of where he is from or where he has traveled and to that it is a dangerous business indeed to refer to a denomination of coinage by the wrong "name" in certain more volatile areas of the north.

Silver is the most common coin in the human realms and where most of any trouble can be found in the wrong naming. Since the split of the Kingdoms of Relk and Barh-lth, The Barhithinan king minted his own silver changing the symbol from a stag head to a bull.

In most of the Northern Isle the following names for coins are "safe" in almost every settlement.

Gold Pieces: Referred to as "**Griffins**" in most of the human kingdoms.

Silver Pieces: Called "**Stags**" in Varnos and Relk and "**Bulls**" Barh-lth.

Copper Pieces: Are called "**Crows**" in every human kingdom.

Platinum Pieces: Referred to as "**Dragon Eyes**" are rare, usually coming from some long lost dwarven treasure of old. This coin is accepted, but will bring undue notice if used in common transactions.

Coins are stamped only on one side called "Faces" and the smooth side is called "Blanks".

Newer coins are notched on one edge usually each notch represents how many years after the Great War the coin was made. Each notch represents 5 years.

In the Dwarven Kingdom of Iron Rune, coins are referred to by the metal that they are crafted of mostly.

### **Other Forms of Currency**

**"Blood Chits"**: red painted wooden disks each representing 20gp, these are used by 7 merchant houses and moneylenders for large transactions or along with a promissory note or loan. Each "Chit" is burned with the merchant or lenders symbol and most often provided along with a written document to verify its validity.

**Trade Bars**: These are mainly used by dwarves when dealing with large transactions. These bars are minted of electrum and have a 25gp each.